

October 1, 2016

Lori Ann Williams

I am a citizen of Pleasant Grove and have requested the books and financials of Strawberry Days in my GRAMA request. Pleasant Grove City is trying to conceal the truth from residents of PG about our taxpayers' own resources and how they are spent. The alleged "separation" of Strawberry Days Association (SDA) and PG City is mingled with assets and in kind contributions and by city ordinance 2013 30, Strawberry Days' was legally established as a "Permanent Administrative Board, Commission (or) District" and was passed unanimously and was formalized as an official subsidiary. Mayor Call said at the time that it was to END and era of Strawberry Days Celebration being a "separate entity" from the city: "With the growth of the city and complex nature of the celebration it was time to bring it on as an official City Committee."

Under binding state GRAMA law definitions, any entity funded OR organized by the city is a governmental entity, subject to ethics and transparency standards, and the Strawberry Days Association/Committee is both funded through cash and in kind contributions for a city celebration. Further, even joint and cooperative ventures with the city are defined as governmental entities for purposes of GRAMA law.

- Pleasant Grove's "Strawberry Days Association" have NO separate Federal Tax ID number.
- Pleasant Grove's "Strawberry Days Association" have NO established 501(c)(3).
- Pleasant Grove's "Strawberry Days Association" has NOT filed or paid taxes at any time.
- Pleasant Grove's "Strawberry Days Association" have not been in compliance with basic entity formalities in more than a decade, and have not even maintained active registration of the entity name for that period of time.
- PG and SDA intermingle assets and resources.
- PG City allows reimbursement of incidentals from SDA.
- PG City provides employees, services, resources of logistics, security and medical for the Parks and Rec, Fire and Police Departments; at least \$52,000 in kind services were provided during the week of June this year for SD Festival.
- PG City property is used for the SD Festival Carnival.
- All liabilities, coverages, overages and responsibilities are ultimately pushed through the city structure itself.

- Legal questions and challenges are processed through our City Attorney.
- All meetings of the committee, activities, and events of the celebration are held on city property, without compensation to the taxpayers.
- All utilities of every kind associated with the SD Festival are paid for by the city.
- Certain Third Party contracts, such as one with PG City's "Bee Boutique" money (\$2500 per year) are collected, and retained in breach of contract by the SD Committee/Association.
- An ordinance was passed on September 17, 2013 making SDA a City Committee
- On September 13, 2016, the ordinance was hastily rescinded and reversed in a work session with no public input.
- * Pleasant Grove City, with the approval of the City Council, acknowledges and contributes \$22,000 to \$24,000, in cash to Strawberry Days Association which has no insurance, no protections, no active entity status, no tax ID number, no 501(c)(3) status, no history of tax compliance, and membership chosen by the city.

I have included copies of my GRAMA requests, Appeals, Denials, and Ordinances passed and reversed.

W. J. Williams